

**Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
Required Information and Selection Criteria for Projects Nominated for CIAP
Funding**

Information required for all CIAP project nomination submittals:

1. Project Title: *State Coastal Forest Initiative*
2. Entity/Individual nominating the project: *Louisiana Department of Natural Resources/Greg Grandy*
3. Contact Information (Name, Address, Telephone, Email): *Greg Grandy, Coastal Engineering Division, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, (225)342-6412, gregory.grandy@la.gov*
4. Total CIAP Funds Requested: *\$20,000,000.00*
5. Parish CIAP Funds Proposed: *N/A*
6. State CIAP Funds Requested: *\$20,000,000.00*
7. Infrastructure Funds Proposed: *N/A*
8. Description and Location of Project: *The proposed project will purchase conservation easements, buffer zones, or fee title properties that are deemed coastal, wetland, tidally influenced or maritime forests and that meet the criteria for priority conservation properties, as defined in NOAA's Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Plan (CELCP), within Louisiana's 19 coastal zone parishes.*
9. Project Type (from list below of authorized CIAP fund uses): *Type 4*
10. Project Justification: *Louisiana's economy was historically driven by 2 industries, forestry and farming. Early explorers took advantage of the abundant forest stands that once flourished along the coast, often serving as the first line of defense against hazardous storms that today remain a major threat to Louisiana's coastal communities. As early settlers to the region harvested the valuable wood, they converted the rich, fertile forest land to agriculture. Today, much of Louisiana's second growth coastal forested landscape is in peril from factors such as levees, navigation and oil and gas canals, roads, railways, and agricultural lands that bisect the once-forested landscape. In addition to these factors, Louisiana has experienced a renewed interest in harvesting many wetland forest species, more specifically baldcypress. Many of these factors, over time, have led to degradation of the State's coastal, wetland, and tidally influenced forests. Where alterations to hydrology have occurred, these same factors have led to introduced salt water, removal of freshwater (causing subsidence), and water being held in the forest for greater periods of time, rendering valuable productive second growth forests unproductive and unable to offer the public and private landowner the same functions and associated values that historically they once did.*
This project is part of an overall strategy for restoring, protecting and conserving Louisiana's Coastal Forest System, which consists of Barrier Live Oak Forests, Salt Dome Hardwood Forests, Coastal Live Oak-Hackberry Forests, Bottomland hardwood Forests, Natural Levee and Chenier Forests,

Mixed Hardwood-pine Forests, Pondcypress and Baldcypress-Tupelo Forests. Implementation consists of purchasing upwards of 40,000 forested wetland acres from several different hydrologic classes that have been shown to play a significant role as part of Louisiana's estuarine and deltaic ecosystems.

11. Project cost share (Types and amounts of non-CIAP funds proposed, if any):
Coastal Estuarine Land Conservation Program Funds (CELCP)